

Dear Co-Chairs Sen. Flexer and Rep. Blumenthal, Vice-Chairs Sen. Slap and Rep. Morin-Bello, Ranking Members Sen. Sampson and Rep. Mastrofrancesco, and Distinguished Members of the GAE Committee,

The early voting resolution was passed by CT Voters. The following bills are required in order to effectively implement EV.

Include at least 2 weeks, Include time frames that are early morning, evenings, and multiple weekends so that people can vote according to their schedule. CT is 1 of 4 states with no early voting and that needs to be reduced to 3 with CT implementing EV. EV should apply to all elections - general, special, municipal, and referendums. We need convenient locations for elderly, working families, and disabled populations accessible by public transportation. Need to guarantee fair access in all towns and have the number of locations be based on number of age-eligible voters. Allow same day registration during EV period. The ability to vote by AB during the pandemic increased voter turnout due to eliminating scheduling issues for voters. 35% of 2020 CT ballots were absentee (over 650,000 voters) with less than 1% of ballots rejected – lowest in recent history. Voters want more choice and we should encourage making voting available to all eligible voters.

Thanks,

Elizabeth Eldridge

South Glastonbury